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Winsford Urban District Council



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958



MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF WINSFORD

1958

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor G.A. Vernon J.P.,

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor H. Sadler.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Councillor T. Bratt J.P., Chairman

Councillor T.R. Hope, Vice-Chairman

Councillor W.H. Barnes.

Councillor W.J.W. Forgham.

Councillor J. Jackson.

Councillor L. Jackson.

Councillor L. Knight.

Councillor G. Morgan.

Councillor A. Sanders.

Councillor P.G. Tipple.

Councillor G.C.T. Tomlinson.

Councillor J.W. Wood.

Councillor J.N. Wilson C.C.,



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WINSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH REPORT FOR 1958

To the Chairman and Members of the Winsford Urban District Council

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1958:-

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,094 acres
Population - Registrar-General's latest estimate of population (mid-1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,000
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,124
Rateable Value (1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£103,159
Sum represented by a penny rate (1957/58)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£411. 0. 2d.

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General.

		<u>Total</u>	M.	F.		
Live Births	(Legitimate	197	112	85	) Birth rate per 1000 of the	
	(				) estimated resident population	
	(Illegitimate	5	1	4	) ... ..	15.53
					After adjustment by the	
					Comparability Factor	14.75
Still Births	(Legitimate	4	2	2	) Rate per 1000 total (live	
	(				) and still) births	19.41
	(Illegitimate	-	-	-	)	
Deaths	...	154	78	76	Death rate per 1000 of the	
					estimated resident population	
					... ..	11.84
					After adjustment by the	
					Comparability Factor	13.73

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	...	...	14.85
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	15.22
Illegitimate infants per 100 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	28
" from Diptheria (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
" from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	Nil
" from Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	Nil
" from Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	Nil
" from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil



The following table compares the main statistics for 1958 with the years 1946-1958:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Death Rate</u>	<u>No. of Deaths from Cancer</u>	<u>No. of Deaths from Tuberculosis</u>
1946	11,300	20.00	11.50	22.12	10	6
1947	11,640	22.85	14.26	33.83	22	6
1948	12,050	19.33	13.19	21.45	23	5
1949	12,100	18.92	12.81	34.93	19	3
1950	12,490	17.22	12.58	27.90	19	3
1951	12,770	16.91	12.92	18.51	21	2
1952	12,820	16.38	10.92	19.04	23	6
1953	12,860	16.56	10.65	14.08	24	3
1954	12,930	15.85	12.14	39.02	17	3
1955	12,980	13.55	11.71	45.45	18	-
1956	12,980	16.79	13.71	32.11	32	3
1957	12,970	17.81	10.87	12.98	16	1
1958	13,000	15.53	11.84	14.85	28	-

#### CAUSES OF DEATH - 1958

(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis respiratory	-	-	-
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
4. Diptheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	1	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	9	13
15. Leukaemia, aleukeamia	-	1	1
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	9	22
18. Coronary disease, angina	10	5	15
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
20. Other heart disease	10	15	25
21. Other circulatory disease	2	1	3
22. Influenza	-	1	1
23. Pneumonia	3	1	4
24. Bronchitis	5	2	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-	3
26. Ulcer of stomach duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	13	21
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1
34. All other accidents	1	4	5
35. Suicide	5	1	6
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1
TOTAL:	78	76	154

## New Industries

Messrs. Fitwel Ltd., brought their new clothing factory into use during 1958. This is situated in West Dudley Street, Wharton. Messrs. Venables, Sheet Metal Works, of New Road are building fresh premises also in New Road.

Mr. J. Reynolds has built new premises at Meadow Bank for his business as an agricultural engineer.

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

#### FOR THE AREA

#### (A) Provided by the District Council

#### (1) Staff

W.S. Slater M.B.,  
Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer  
of Health,  
Hartford Hill,  
Darwin Street,  
Northwich,  
Cheshire.

(Services shared with the  
other three Mid-Cheshire  
Districts, and the County  
Council).

Clerical Staff

1 person  
(whole time)

(Services shared with the  
other three Mid-Cheshire  
Districts)

T.H. Rogerson,  
M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.,

Chief Public Health  
Inspector,  
Meat & Food Inspector.

(Winsford Urban District  
Council only)

F. Lamb,  
M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.,

Deputy Chief Health  
Inspector.

-do-

S.W. Couling,  
M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.,

Additional Public  
Health Inspector

-do-

J.C. Long,

Inspector's Assistant

-do-

R.D. Clarke,

Pupil Inspector

-do-

#### 2. Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Services in Manchester, which are provided free of charge to the Winsford Urban District Council provided adequate during the year. In addition, this service has co-operated in the free transport of samples from this area. Details of the samples taken are given later in this report.

#### 3. Environmental Services.

Details of the other Services, e.g., Public Health and Housing Inspections, Food examination, etc., etc., provided by the Winsford Urban District Council are recorded later in this report.



(B) Hospital Services

(i) Infectious Diseases

Admissions of cases of Infectious Diseases are now spread over the following hospitals: Warrington Isolation Hospital, Monsall Fever Hospital, Crewe Isolation Hospital and Macclesfield Hospital. To which hospital our cases go depends largely upon the preference of the patient's doctor, and, of course, on the availability of hospital beds.

(ii) General Hospital Services

Towards the end of the year 1957 a Joint Mid-Cheshire Committee comprising representatives of all four Mid-Cheshire Authorities and interested local medical practitioners was formed. The aim of this Committee was to expedite, as far as possible, the provision of a general hospital to serve the Mid-Cheshire area, thereby reducing the many inconveniences experienced by those patients and relatives when hospital accommodation has to be sought as far away as Chester, Liverpool, Warrington, Manchester and Crewe. At the time of writing (May, 1959) it appears, whilst the Manchester Regional Hospital Board fully appreciates the urgent need of this area, no firm proposal has yet been formulated.

(C) Provided by the County Council

The Cheshire County Council have officers discharging duties in the Winsford Urban area under the following services:-

School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare including Milk Food Sales, Tuberculosis, School Dental, Health Visiting, Weights and Measures Inspection, Specialist Services, e.g., Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, paediatric, Home and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, Speech Therapy, Residential and Temporary Accommodation, under the County Welfare Services etc., etc.,

In addition, the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee (under the auspices of the County Council) provided the following services:-

(a) Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes

The work done during the year 1958 in the District is detailed as follows:-

Vaccination against Smallpox

Pre-School Children	...	...	66
School Children...	...	...	3
Adults ...	...	...	9

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Pre-school children.	..	-
School children.	..	-
Re-Immunised.	..	7

Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Pre-school children.	..	119
School children	..	-
Re-Immunised	..	18

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

This scheme which commenced in May 1956, was further extended whereby persons of the age of 26 might receive the protective treatment against Poliomyelitis. Whilst the extension of the scheme did not really get established until 1959, much of the preliminary work was carried out and the outcome of this was that early in 1959 very satisfactory progress in the scheme was possible.



b. Sitting Case Car and Ambulance Service:-

The service in the area continued to deal with Winsford Urban patients expeditiously and without serious complaint throughout the year.

c. Prevention of Illness - Care and After Care.

Nursing requisites and after care equipment were loaned for the use of the sick and needy in a number of homes during the year.

d. Domestic Help Service:-

The service continued to expand year by year and is undoubtedly one of the best means whereby the older people can remain longer in their own home surroundings. Institutional accommodation, however excellent, is for most elderly people but a poor substitute for their own homes.

e. Family Planning.

The Family Planning Clinic, which remains controlled locally by an active team of lady volunteers, working under the general guidance of the Family Planning Association, has been held every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. at the County Council Clinic, Weaver Street, Winsford. During the year 137 married women from Winsford and the adjoining districts attended at least once for specialist advice. These attendances were made for many reasons, including financial, ill health, housing, family spacing etc.,

SECTION C.SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.Water Supply.

The water supply provided by the Mid & South East Cheshire Water Board during the year has been satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.

Sewerage & Sewage Disposal.

Maintenance work necessitated by subsidence continued at the main Over and Wharton Works, the Wharton works being particularly affected. The three small works at Meadow Bank, Clive and Whitegate continue to function satisfactorily.

The Council have asked for a report on the general question of sewage disposal in the area with a view to the replacement of the main Over and Wharton Works by a modern plant on a new site.

A motor gully/Cesspool emptier has been purchased and the emptying of private cesspools and septic tanks is now undertaken as a service. The machine also has an attachment for the reception of nightsoil and this enables the nightsoil collection to be carried out in a more hygienic manner than was previously the case.

Closet Conversions.

Those are being carried out where the availability of sewers permits.

Recreation Grounds.

The existing Over and Wharton recreation grounds are being maintained with the bowling greens, tennis courts and other facilities offered. The Council own an area of land adjacent to the Wharton Recreation grounds which it is hoped in the future to develop as an extension to the recreational facilities of the district.

Mr. T. H. Rogerson, the Chief Public Health Inspector, reports as follows:

Licensed Camping sites.

There are four camping sites in the district, and one under development for licensing.

Three of those sites are situated on land near to and overlooking the River Weaver and the remaining two in the Whitegate part of the district.

The camping sites in the district accommodate approximately 100 moveable dwellings.

Canal Boats.

No Canal Boats are now registered with the Council.

Destruction of Rats and Mice.

Towards the end of the year the operation of this service was transferred to the Public Health Department. At the time of writing the report the service has been completely reorganized to embrace both Insect Control and Rodent Control. Details of this new service can be conveniently separated as follows:-

Rodent Control.

During the year of the Ministry's activity in this field only 10% of the agricultural holdings in the district had contracts for this work; presumably the remaining 90% of those premises received no treatment. The support of the local branch of the National Farmers Union is to be sought with a view to extending the Council's contract service to as many farms as possible in the area.



### Rodent Control (continued)

Annual Contracts have been hold with most of the larger industrial premises for the past ten years, but at a considerable financial loss. Many of these contracts had lapsed, so the opportunity was taken to make a complete review, to negotiate new agreements, and to reorganize the method of treatment on an economical basis.

It is hoped to extend this contract service to many more business premises and farms in the town.

### Insect Control.

Allied to Rodent Control is the problem of Insect Control, an important service which has received scant attention in the past. Many insects, and flies in particular, are vectors of disease which should be controlled by a properly organized service, equipped with modern insecticides.

During the reorganization of the Rodent Control service, the opportunity was taken to incorporate within it an embryonic insect control service which could be expanded as the demand for this service increased. The rodent operator and the general assistant in the department operate the scheme, and at the time of writing this report two annual contracts have already been negotiated with the Winsford Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd., for fly control at the Abattoir and for insect control at the Bakehouse. It is hoped that other business firms, particularly food businesses will eventually make use of this service by way of annual contracts so that regular insect control can be exercised.

### Common Lodging Houses.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

### River Pollution.

There is no known pollution of the river in Winsford.

### Swimming Baths.

The Council's Open Air Swimming Baths have been maintained in good condition. A close supervision of the water quality is being maintained with tests three time daily.

21 samples of the swimming bath water were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester, for examination, 18 of those samples were reported upon as satisfactory and three were unsatisfactory.



CONTROL OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Chief Public Health Inspector reports as follows:

Early in the year a report was presented to the Council on a proposed long-term programme of domestic smoke control in the Winsford Urban District

The pollution of the atmosphere by smoke from industrial furnaces was a problem in Winsford for many years. This has now been considerably alleviated by the closure of some obsolete plant and the modernization of most of the remaining furnaces in the district. But pollution from the domestic grate has still to be tackled, and as this source is responsible for about one half of the country's air pollution from smoke, it will be appreciated that this is a problem of some magnitude, and one which has considerably been increased by the post-war house building programmes.

The new Clean Air Act, in addition to strengthening control over industrial smoke, is the first general law to provide for the prevention of smoke from domestic premises, but the reduction of domestic pollution cannot be achieved without some expenditure, and the report fully indicated what is involved in a project of this nature.

The Areas where smoke control measures could be more readily imposed in the district and where these measures would produce appreciable results are centred around the four sites of post-war development, viz.,

1. The Dene Estate, to be divided into six phases.
2. The Greville Estate area,
3. The Kingsway area,
4. The proposed Grange Lane Estate area.

On the 1st January, 1958, there were approximately 4,150 inhabited houses in the district and if allowance is made for new buildings and future slum clearance, it will be seen that the proposed long-term programme which embraces the largest concentrated areas of domestic property in the district will result in 1,271 or 30% of the total inhabited houses becoming smoke free. Similarly, an area of 278 acres, or nearly half a square mile of the town would be rendered smokeless.

As mentioned above, the new Clean Air Act, in addition to strengthening control over industrial smoke is the first general law to provide for the prevention of smoke from domestic houses. This will be done through the establishment of smoke control areas, which may or may not be the same as the more familiar smokeless zones, a number of which have been established during the last few years by municipalities which have secured the necessary powers in local Acts.

It may be helpful to indicate why this apparently piece-meal approach to domestic smoke prevention should be necessary, when as it is now agreed, such smoke is responsible for a great deal (roughly one half) of the ill-effects caused by air pollution, so that clean air cannot be secured unless this problem as well as that of industrial pollution is solved.

It is in fact, a more complicated problem than that of industrial smoke, for the latter can be prevented by making use of available improvements and improved techniques in the burning of coal, whereas the only way, so far, of eliminating domestic smoke is by ceasing to burn raw coal. This will entail a vast change-over from coal fires to the smokeless media, - gas, electricity, oil and the solid smokeless fuels. For several reasons, including a deeply-rooted tradition and the heavy peak load during severe wintry weather, we are obliged to depend, and will have to do so for a long time, on solid fuel for a large proportion of the heating needs of the home.

The establishment of smoke control areas will necessarily be gradual, it will need to be undertaken in stages, and over a period of years. Progress will be governed by the supply of smokeless fuels, the rate at which appliances can be converted or replaced, and the rate at which the Council is able to formulate and carry through its smoke control plans.

Above all, progress - and indeed the whole success of the operation will depend on public support; upon people understanding the problems involved, and their readiness to co-operate in smoke control measures.

The Council approved the recommendation for domestic smoke control outlined in the report and resolved that steps be taken to declare the proposed Grange Lane Estate a smoke control area.

Observations continued throughout the year at the four recording stations in the district, It will be seen from the accompanying table, which illustrates the trend in air pollution in the town during the past three years, that a decrease in deposited matter has been recorded yearly at Knights Grange and Woolworths Stores. This can be attributed to less pollution of solid matter from industrial sources e.g., the closure of certain obsolete plant, the conversion to mechanical firing of solid fuels, and the conversion to oil firing. The close fluctuations of pollution as shown by the Gladstone Street School gauge is indicative of the sources within the immediate vicinity, viz., the Dene Estate and Gladstone Street Areas which contribute the domestic pollution. The Wharton Church site shows a slight increase, but here again the bulk of the deposited matter will come from the Greville Estate and adjoining areas with variations of wind-blown pollution from the nearby main railway line.

The figures shown in the table below show approximate average values as compared to the country as a whole. No significant decrease can be expected until domestic premises come within the ambit of smoke control areas such as are envisaged in the proposed Grange Estate Smoke Control Area and others outlined in the report for the town as a whole as mentioned above.

AVERAGE MONTHLY ANALYSIS. 1958.					
Site.	R.	I.D.	S.D.	T.S.D.	S.O.2.
Knights Grange Farm.	2.61	1.46	6.33	7.94	1.46
Gladstone St. Schools.	2.87	2.19	7.07	9.67	0.57
Woolworths Stores.	2.82	3.65	7.16	10.74	1.14
Wharton Church.	2.73	3.20	6.97	10.18	0.87

R. Rainfall in inches.

I.D. Insoluble Deposits.

S.D. Soluble Deposits.

T.S.D.

S.O.2.

Total solids deposited

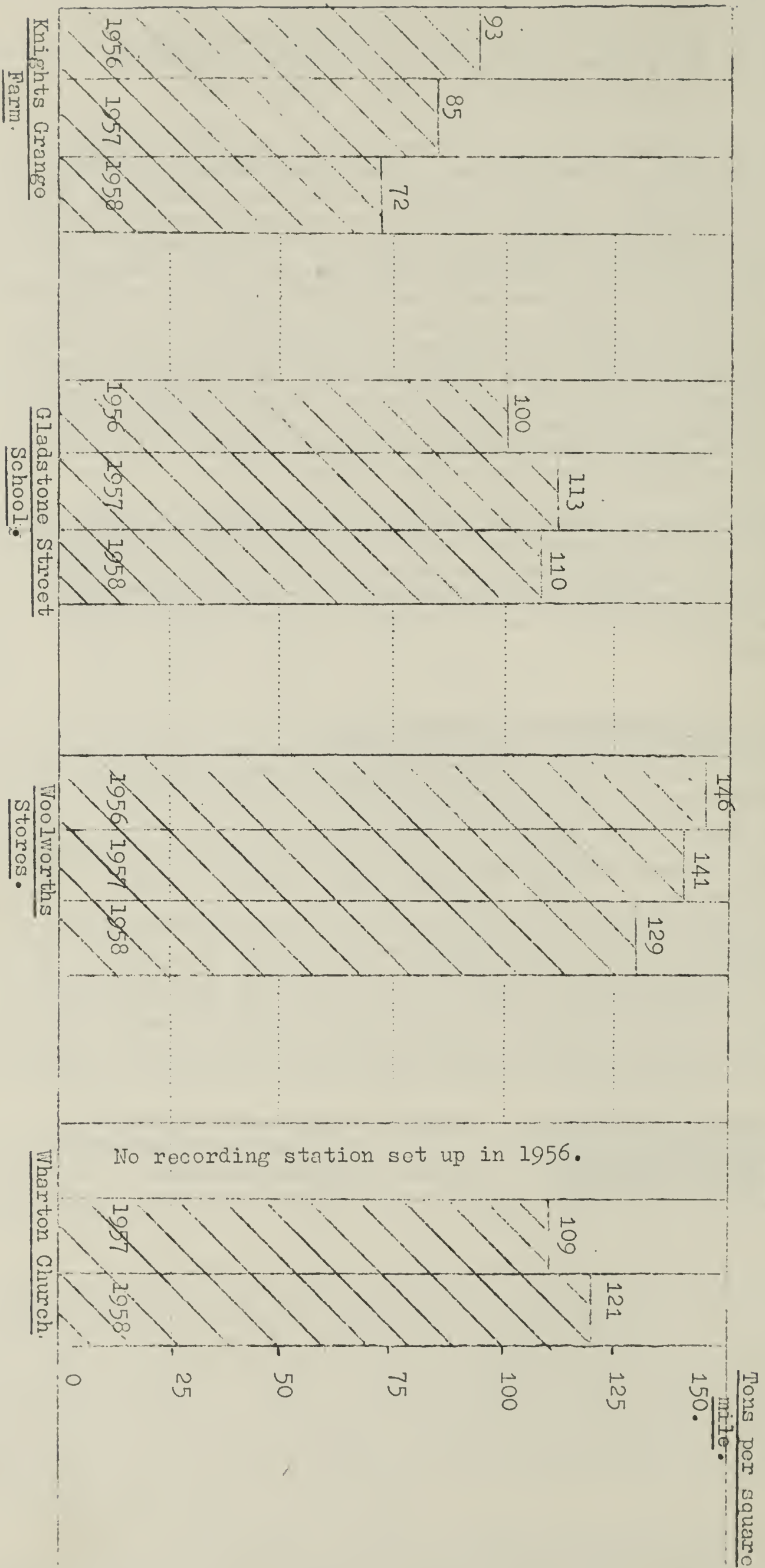
in tons per square mile.

Sulphur Dioxide.



# A I R    P O L L U T I O N    I N    W I N S F O R D .

Weight of Ash, Grit, Soot etc., which fell on the town during the months of January to December, 1956, 1957 and 1958.





SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Statement of Inspections made and Notices Issued.

(Based upon a Statement made by the Public Health Inspectors.)

Nature of Inspection made.	No.	Number of Notices served		Notices complied with	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions	
		Stat-utory.	In-formal.			Instit-uted.	Pen-ding.
1. Dwelling Houses (General)	554	1	121	110	11	1	-
2. Tents, Vans, Sheds.	24	-	7	6	1	-	-
3. Privy Middens, Earth Closets, Peat, pails, cesspools. Privvies.	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Cesspools.	5	-	3	3	-	-	-
5. House Drainage.	40	-	1	1	-	-	-
6. Ditches, Watercourses etc	20	-	4	3	1	-	-
7. Offensive Accumulations	15	-	4	4	-	-	-
8. Keeping of Animals.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Offensive Trades.	6	-	4	4	-	-	-
10. Slaughterhouses (Public)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Slaughterhouses (Private)	2415	-	10	8	2	-	-
Other Places where food is produced or sold:-							
Bakehouses.	11	-	2	1	1	-	-
Canteens.	7	-	1	1	-	-	-
Cafes.	9	-	1	1	-	-	-
Food Shops.	87	-	20	11	9	-	-
Butchers Shop.	36	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Food Premises.	61	-	4	3	1	-	-
11. Dairies.	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Factories with Mechanical Power.	18	-	2	2	-	-	-
Factories without mechanical Power.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other premises under the Act. (including works of building)				-			
Outworkers Premises.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. Ashbins.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
14. Overcrowding.	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. Places of Amusement.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
16. Verminous Premises.	10	-	1	1	-	-	-
17. Water Closets.	9	-	1	-	1	-	-
18. Water Supply.	5	-	7	5	2	-	-
19. Shops (Shops Act)	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
20. Miscellaneous.	51	-	3	3	-	-	-
21. River Boats.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Infectious Diseases.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Interviews.	530	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Sampling.							
Milk.	70	-	-	-	-	-	-
Water.	30	-	4	-	4	-	-
Ice Cream.	39	-	4	-	4	-	-
25. Smoke Abatement.	168	-	23	23	-	-	-
26. Markets.	10	-	1	-	1	-	-
27. Disinfection.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
28. Disinfestation.	51	-	3	3	-	-	-

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupier Prosecuted
Factories without Mechanical Power	13	10	-	-
Factories with Mechanical Power	58	18	2	-
Other premises	3	-	-	-
TOTALS	74	28	2	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage to floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	4	-	-	-



HOUSING.

The Chief Public Health Inspector reports as follows:-

"During the year no permanent houses were erected by the Council, the total number of post-war dwellings erected remains at 805 permanent and 50 temporary.

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES & SITES.

	HOUSES CONSTRUCTED.	
	Pre-War.	Post-War.
Grange Lane. & Meadow Bank,	56	6
Park Avenue.	40	-
Gladstone Street, Woodford Lane & Moss Bank.	50	-
Crook Lane.	12	-
Seaton Street, Hewitt Drive, Beckett Avenue,	36	-
Siddorn Street, Over Way, Coronation Avenue,		
and Bakers Lane.	50	-
Kingsway, Hill Street, Massey Avenue, and		
Prefabricated Bungalows	42	52
Dene Estate.	-	548
Greville Drive, Lodge Drive.	-	20
Greville Estate	-	228
Special Bungalows for paraplegic Ex-Servicemen.	-	1

In addition 12 permanent houses and bungalows have been built privately during the year under review, and a total of 160 since the end of the war as compared to 805 permanent ones built by the Council.

THE HOUSING ACT 1957. SLUM CLEARANCE.

No large scale slum clearance work could be attempted during the year due to the restriction on the house building programme. Consequently only matters of urgency could be dealt with, together with the clearance of empty houses which were awaiting demolition.

During the twelve months under review a total of 13 houses were demolished and a further 5 were closed awaiting demolition.

The five-year Slum Clearance Programme originally submitted to the Minister under the requirements of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 should have been completed by the end of next year, i.e., 1960, but it will probably take another three years to deal with the remaining parts of the programme which includes the Victoria Terrace, Hill Street and Winsford Hill properties which will have to be dealt with as clearance areas.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 - HOUSING REPAIRS.

Routine housing survey inspections have continued. Only one Statutory notice had to be served under section 93 of the Public Health Act 1936, for non-compliance with the requirements of an informal notice. Owners have been encouraged to seek Improvement Grants whilst carrying out repairs, but only four owners of tenanted properties have taken this advantage during 1958. The operation of the Improvement Grant Scheme is carried out by the Surveyors Department.

THE RENT ACT 1957.

During the year eleven applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received, ten of which were approved. Only one Certificate was issued, as in the other cases the houses were repaired after the initial notice to the landlords.

As a result of this action, seven of the houses concerned were put on offer to the tenants and were subsequently purchased by them.



THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. - INSANITARY PREMISES.

On the 30th January, a Certificate was issued by the Chief Health Inspector under Section 83 of the Public Health Act, 1936 to the effect that a certain Council House was in such a filthy and unwholesome condition as to be prejudicial to health. The Council gave instructions for action to be taken to obtain possession of the house, and on the 14th April at the local Court of Summary Jurisdiction, an Eviction Order was granted with a stay of 28 days..

FURTHER HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

No new Council owned houses have been erected during the year. A decision has however now been made to recommence building and a programme of some 50 dwellings, comprising flats and bungalows is to be undertaken in 1959. These will be dealt with on sites off Townfields Road and at Alamein Drive, Done Estate.

Council Houses erected before 1939 are to be modernised and a start on this work is being made by the replacement of worn out coal ranges by modern combustion grates and by grates with tiled surrounds.

Private housing development continued steadily in the area and during 1958, 12 new dwellings were completed.

The Council are anxious to develop the area and at the present time are considering the reception of overspill population from Liverpool in conjunction with new industry. This scheme would result in large scale new housing activity.

OVERCROWDING.

	<u>No. of</u> <u>Dwellings.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Families.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Persons.</u>
(a) The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year together with the number of families and the number of persons dwelling within.	6	9	49
(b) The number of new cases of overcrowding reported. during 1958.	6	9	49
(c) The number of cases of overcrowding relieved and the number of persons concerned in 1958.	1	1	7
(d) Particulars of any case in which dwelling houses in respect of which the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded.	Nil	Nil	Nil.
(e) Any other particulars with respect to conditions in relation to overcrowding upon which the Medical Officer may consider desirable to report or which the Minister may from time to time require.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

The details given above are in accordance with the requirements of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, and are extracted from the records of applications for Council Houses.

SECTION E.INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Under this heading the Chief Public Health Inspector reports:-

1. Milk Supply.

During the year 70 samples of milk were taken, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, with the following results.

Grade.	Methylone Blue		Phosphatase Test	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Ungraded ..	5	-	-	-
Tuberculin Tests ..	5	2	-	-
Pasteurised ..	44	-	44	-
T.T. Pasteurised ..	10	-	-	-
Sterilized ..	4	-	-	-

Prompt investigations, where unsatisfactory reports were received, soon remedied the trouble.

2. Ice Cream.

39 samples of Ice Cream were taken during the year, with the following results:-

30 samples	Grade 1.
2 samples	Grade 2.
- samples	Grade 3.
7 samples	Grade 4.

3. Food Premises.

There are 189 various food premises in the town, which can be classified as follows:—

- 64 General groceries & provisions, including three outdoor beer licences, including 35 licensed to retail Ice Cream.
- 13 Premises with Bakehouses and shops selling bread, confectionery and grocery, including 6 licensed to retail Ice Cream.
- 19 Licensed Premises.
- 28 Premises selling sweets, including 4 holding catering licences.
- 10 Fish and chip shops.
- 12 Greengrocers including 4 selling wet fish, and three retailing Ice Cream.
- 16 Butchers Shops.
- 10 Industrial Canteens.
- 11 School Canteens.
- 6 Cafes.



4. C.W.S. Bacon Factory.

During the year 1958, 69,525 pigs were slaughtered at the C.W.S. Bacon Factory, Bostock Road, Winsford, and the following table gives the average monthly percentage of whole carcasses, part carcasses and offal condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Whole Carcasses.	..	0.46%
Part Carcasses	..	0.85%
Plucks,	..	1.20%
Entrails.	..	0.53%
Heads.	..	2.54%
Livers.	..	0.95%
Lungs.	..	1.42%
Kidneys.	..	1.13%
Leafs.	..	0.63%

5. Other Foods.

Under the "unsound food provisions", the undermentioned articles of food were found to be unfit for consumption and condemned:-

<u>Articles of Food.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>	<u>Cause of condemnation.</u>
Tinned Vegetables.	20 lbs. 8 ozs.	Blown.
Tinned Meat.	91 lbs. 12 ozs.	Decomposition.
Tinned Fish.	3 lbs. 12 ozs.	Blown.
Tinned Fruit.	6 lbs. 8 ozs.	Blown.
	<u>122 lbs. 8 ozs.</u>	

In addition, the following, based upon a statement by the County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples, obtained in Winsford Urban District during the year 1957:-

<u>Nature of Samples.</u>	<u>Number obtained.</u>	<u>Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality.</u>
Butter.	1	-
Cheshire Cheese.	1	-
Gin.	1	-
Jam. - Raspberry.	1	-
Jellies - Raspberry.	1	-
Lard.	1	-
Luncheon Meat.	1	-
Milk.	26	1
Margarine.	1	-
Milk. - Condensed Full cream (Unsweetened)	1	-
Mincemeat.	1	-
Pickled Onions.	1	-
Quinnino Tablets.	1	-
Rum.	1	-
Vinegar Malt.	1	-
Whisky.	1	-
	<u>41</u>	<u>1</u>

Particulars of Sample not up to Standard.

<u>Sample.</u>	<u>Result of Analysis.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
Milk.	Containing foreign body - Animal Hair.	The supplier was fined £5. 0. Od. and £1. 8. Od. costs.



Meat Inspection.

The following, based upon a statement by the Meat Inspectors, is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned during the year 1958.

- 1958 -	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed & inspected.	1577	214	39	2925	69525
<u>All Diseases except T.B.,</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned.	2	13	23	15	334
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	172	78	-	119	4753
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	11.0%	42.05%	58.9%	4.57%	7.32%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned.	8	4	-	-	60
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	92	29	-	-	1915
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	6.34%	10.74%	-	-	2.84%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	6	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	6	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

A total of 74,680 carcasses were inspected during the year, a reduction of 1,888 as compared to the previous year.

Methods are being examined for the improvement of the inspection service at the Bacon Factory, but the line system of killing presents difficulties which can only be overcome by adequate staffing. It is hoped that the eventual results of the proposed review of the Exchequer Grant will enable the Council to remedy the present faults.

The facilities provided by the Department of Veterinary Pathology of the University of Liverpool for the bacteriological examination of doubtful carcasses were much used during the year. Unfortunately this free service has now ended, and the Department is left to its own devices as far as these cases are concerned. Consequently the small laboratory which has been gradually developed during the past five years has been of great value in diagnosing such cases. Two members of the staff have attended a course in Bacteriology at the Department of Veterinary Pathology of the University of Liverpool and the Department is now able to deal with its own difficult cases of diagnosis which continually arise during the course of meat inspection. This is now an essential part of the Department and it is hoped to be able to continue its development in the future in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry and other authorities of note.

#### Food Hygiene.

Progress in the local campaign for cleaner food continued throughout the year. Food premises of all descriptions have been visited and the traders advised on methods to improve their premises to comply with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

Courses of lectures for food trade employees are to be organized during the coming year in accordance with the original recommendation of the Council when the Clean Food Campaign was first inaugurated.

#### Health Education.

A series of lectures were again given by the Inspectors during the winter months on various subjects relating to Public Health.

Visual aids in the shape of lantern slides, film strips and flanelgraphs are extensively used and add considerably to the appeal of the subject. The Department made its own film strip on local "meat hygiene", and this created much interest when shown to local audiences.

This service is regularly sought by local organisations and every effort is made through the medium of these lectures to promote better communal health.

## SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS  
AND OTHER DISEASES.1. Notifiable Diseases. (Other than Tuberculosis)

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever.	9	3	-
Measles.	11	-	-
Pneumonia.	3	-	-
Whooping cough.	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Dysentery.	1	-	-

Cases occurring in age groups 5 years and under; and over 5 years.

Disease.	5 years and under.	Over 5 years.
Scarlet Fever,	3	6
Measles.	9	2
Pneumonia.	3	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Erysipelas.	-	-
Poliomyelitis.	-	-
Dysentery.	-	1

2. Tuberculosis.

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1958.

Age Periods.	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Other Forms.</u>		<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Other Forms.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 "	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	2	3	-	2	-	-	-	-

During the year 1958, 4 cases were admitted to, and 5 cases discharged from hospital.

The number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years:-

1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.
92	93	92	72	74	59	56	54	57	58	57



3. Mass Radiography.

The Unit based at Stockport last visited the area in October, 1958. This was a special visit for the purpose of X-raying those 12 - 13 year old children in the school B.C.G. scheme who were found to be "Mantoux Positive". The response was most satisfactory.

4. Disinfection and Disinfestation.

The disinfection of fifteen premises was carried out in connection with Infectious Diseases.

The disinfestation of 51 premises was carried out in connection with the eradication of insect pests.

I would like to say, in closing this report, how much I appreciate the help I have received from Members of the Council and Officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., J.P.E.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1959.

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